

REMARKS

Claims 4, 6-8, 12-14, and 18 now pending in the application. Claim 19 is cancelled. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claim 19 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Danneels et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,272,472). Claim 19 is cancelled and therefore this rejection is rendered moot.

Applicants note however, that Claim 19 is merely cancelled so that the allowable Claims may issue. Applicants reserve the right to seek patent rights in Claim 19 at a later date if necessary.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicants thank the Examiner for acknowledging the allowance of Claims 4, 6-8, 12-14 and 18. Applicants note however that the Claims are believed to be allowable for numerous reasons not put forth by the Examiner in the current Office Action.

SUBMISSION OF SUBSTITUTE DECLARATION

Pursuant to the Examiner's requirement, a substitute Declaration executed by the inventors will be submitted as soon as the undersigned representative can contact all of the inventors for signatures.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: October 24, 2007

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